

REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS

Working Group Initiative

The Task Force has developed ecosystem restoration goals and strategies as documented in *Coordinating Success*, July 2000. Implementation efforts will build upon this strategy. A growing need of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force is to strengthen regional linkages to assure coordination and progress within the sub-regions of South Florida. This proposal calls for a one year effort from November, 2000 to November, 2001 to do so.

CHALLENGE: The key elements and features for ecosystem restoration in South Florida have been identified in the Integrated Financial Plan and the recently completed strategy document, *Coordinating Success*. These documents, along with supporting materials, provide a substantive working agenda around three goal areas. The next step is to assure that progress related to these goal areas is continuously reviewed and adequately coordinated within South Florida and its sub-regions.

BROAD GAME PLAN: It is proposed that expanded PCTs will provide a forum to monitor and coordinate programs related to ecosystem restoration in each region. In order to address restoration implementation on a regional basis, an assessment will be conducted to provide a base for future activities. This assessment will consist of regional forums and resulting summary documents.

REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS: Three of the existing PCTs will be asked to organize Regional Forums (one to two day events) that will identify key regional issues and needs and develop future strategies for the PCTs supportive of the task force goals. These meetings should be inclusive of the public leadership in each region. Each PCT should decide who should be involved in their forum, the design, and strategies for follow-up.

The initial Forums are proposed for the Kissimmee, Southwest, and Keys regions to be completed by March, 2001. Lessons learned will be identified and shared with other PCTs to help in their planning. The Office of Executive Director will provide assistance to each PCT for these events. Regional reports will be produced following these forums, documenting the results of the assessment and identifying future PCT activities.